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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/585,124

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Charlotte Skourup

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EXAMINER

TILLERY, RASHAWN N

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/585,124	Applicant(s) SKOURUP ET AL.	
	Examiner RASHAWN TILLERY	Art Unit 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 9/13/2010.
2. Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 12 and 23 are independent claims. In the instant Amendment claims 1, 3-6, 8, 10, 12, 17, 19 and 23 were amended. This action is made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dempski (US 2006/0244677) in view of Foxlin (US 2002/0024675).

Regarding claim 1, Dempski discloses a system that enables a user to view a virtual control panel (see paragraph [0013] where it is discussed that selected data associated with a device is displayed on a wearable display), and

a portable identification element carried and manipulated by the user, the portable identification element being configured to define a position and orientation of the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0013] where it is discussed that virtual data is displayed in accordance with visual markers associated with labeled objects),

Dempski does not expressly disclose a pointing object carried and manipulated by the user for interaction with the virtual control panel. However, Foxlin discloses a head-mounted virtual reality system capable of tracking a hand-mounted object relative to a user's head (see paragraph [0057] and [0058]). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Foxlin's teachings in Dempski's user interface in an effort to enable user to intuitively interact with applications in a virtual environment (see paragraphs [0004] and [0076]).

The modified Dempski discloses a first tracking unit (see Foxlin, fig 1, 30) adapted to capture data representing a position of the pointing object (see Foxlin, fig 1, 14; Examiner notes that user is capable of adapting the tracking unit to capture any type data),

a second tracking unit adapted to capture data representing a position of the portable identification element (see Foxlin, fig 1, 30; Examiner notes that user is capable of adapting the tracking unit to capture any type data),

a storage unit (see Dempski, fig 1, 36, 38, 40, 42) configured to store at least one pre-defined graphical interface representing a control panel the device, said graphical interface comprising an interface for user interactions with the device (see Dempski, paragraph [0012] "The databases may also store data about the work environment, object details, current status and location of workers, etc."),

a graphics unit configured to generate a graphical representation of the control panel based on said stored graphical interface (see Dempski, paragraph [0013])

“selecting data from a memory storage with the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.”),

a registering unit configured to register said graphical representation of the control panel in a fixed relation to said portable identification element, based on said data representing the position of the portable identification element, to produce a virtual control panel (see Foxlin, paragraphs [0090], [0091] and [0096]),

a display unit configured to show the user a view comprising the real world and the virtual control panel projected in a fixed relation to said portable identification element (see Dempksi, paragraph [0015] where the see-through display is discussed), and

an application unit configured to perform actions in response to the users interactions with the virtual control panel, and configured to determine which actions to be performed based on the position of said user controlled pointing object in relation to the identification element (see Foxlin, paragraph [0105] where selecting and manipulating objects is discussed).

Regarding claim 2, Foxlin discloses the system is adapted to modify the appearance of the virtual control panel in response to interactions between the user controlled pointing object and the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0105] where selecting and manipulating objects is discussed).

Regarding claim 3, Dempksi discloses said graphical interface is adapted to display data from the device and wherein the system is adapted to generate a graphical representation of the data and to display the data on the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0013] “selecting data from a memory storage with the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.”).

Regarding claim 4, Foxlin discloses said user controlled pointing object is a handheld pointing device or a body part of the user (see paragraphs [0007] and [0008]).

Regarding claim 5, Dempski discloses the storage unit is adapted to store a plurality of graphical interfaces, each representing a control panel of a particular device, wherein the system is adapted to generate and display a plurality of graphical representations of control panels for different devices based on said stored graphical interfaces of the devices (see paragraph [0013] “selecting data from a memory storage with the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.”), and wherein the system further comprises: an identification unit configured to identify which of the stored control panels to be displayed (see paragraph [0016] where the unique identifiers associated with the markers is discussed).

Regarding claim 6, Dempski discloses said identification unit comprises a recognition unit configured to recognize and identify devices in the environment of the user, and wherein the system is adapted to determine which of the stored control panels

to be displayed based on which of the devices is identified (see paragraph [0016] where the unique identifiers associated with the markers is discussed).

Regarding claim 7, Dempksi discloses said recognition unit is adapted to recognize and identify unique identification markings on the devices (see paragraph [0016] where the unique identifiers associated with the markers is discussed).

Regarding claim 8, Dempski discloses the system is arranged so the virtual control panel displayed changes when another device is recognized and identified, and when the user has accepted the other device (see paragraph [0013] "selecting data from a memory storage with the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.").

Regarding claim 9, Foxlin discloses said portable identification element is adapted to be carried by the user during interaction with the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0058] where the wearable computer, 10 is discussed).

Regarding claim 10, Foxlin discloses said portable identification element is attachable to a body of the user (see paragraph [0058] where the wearable computer, 10 is discussed).

Regarding claim 11, Dempski discloses said display unit comprises a wearable display device showing the user said view (see paragraph [0008] where the wearable see-through display, 12 is discussed).

Claims 12 and 13 are similar in scope to claims 1 and 2, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Regarding claim 14, Foxlin discloses defining a two-way communication between the virtual control panel and the device, sending information to the device regarding the users actions with the virtual control panel, receiving data from the device, generating a graphical representation of the received data and displaying the data on the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0105] where selecting and manipulating objects is discussed).

Regarding claim 15, Foxlin discloses said data is displayed on the virtual control panel in response to interactions between the user controlled pointing object and the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0057] and [0058] where the hand-mounted beacon 14 is discussed).

Regarding claim 16, Dempksi discloses storing a plurality of pre-defined graphical interfaces, each representing a control panel of a particular device, determining which of the stored control panels to be displayed, and generating a graphical representation of the control panel to be displayed based on the pre-defined graphical interface of the control panel to be displayed (see Dempski, paragraph [0012] "The databases may also store data about the work environment, object details, current status and location of workers, etc.")).

Regarding claim 17, Dempski discloses at least one of the stored graphical interfaces comprises more than one graphical view to be displayed on the virtual control

panel, and which of the views to be displayed is determined based upon actions of the user (see paragraph [0022] “The longer that the operator gazes upon the object the system may optionally be programmed to provide additional information regarding the object.”).

Regarding claim 18, Dempksi discloses recognizing and identifying a device, determining which of the stored control panels to be displayed based on the identified device, and generating graphical representation of the control panel of the identified device based on the stored graphical interface of the identified device and displaying a view comprising the real world and the virtual control panel of the identified device projected in a fixed relation to said portable identification element (see paragraph [0013] “selecting data from a memory storage with the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.”).

Regarding claim 19, Dempski discloses each device is provided with a unique identification marking and a device is recognized by identifying the unique identification marking (see paragraph [0016] where the unique identifiers associated with the markers is discussed).

Regarding claim 20, Dempski discloses the virtual control panel displayed is changed when another device is recognized and identified, and when the user has accepted the device (see paragraph [0013] “selecting data from a memory storage with

the data being associated with one of the objects associated with one of the visual markers, and then displaying the data on a wearable display worn by the operator.”).

Regarding claim 21, Foxlin discloses said portable identification element is carried by the user during interaction with the virtual control panel (see paragraph [0058] where the wearable computer, 10 is discussed).

Regarding claim 22, Dempksi discloses the virtual control panel comprises virtual interaction members and an audio and/or visual feedback is generated when the user activates any of the virtual interaction members (see paragraph [0022] “the system may be responsive to voice command of the operator”).

Claim 23 is similar in scope to claim 1 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 9/13/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding Applicant's arguments concerning the combination of Dempksi and Foxlin failing to disclose an identification unit that defines a position and orientation of a virtual control panel, the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

As noted in the previous Office Action, Dempski discloses a system for accessing and viewing data in a virtual environment (see paragraph [0013]). Foxlin discloses a head-mounted virtual reality system capable of tracking a hand-mounted object relative

to a user's head (see paragraph [0057] and [0058]). One cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Regarding Applicant's arguments concerning Foxlin failing to disclose a second tracking unit adapted to capture data representing a position of the portable identification element, the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Examiner notes that Foxlin's wearable computer 10 is connected to the orientation tracker 30 through cable 18 and thus inherently "captures data" of the computer. Examiner further notes that Foxlin's tracker can be "adapted" to capture any data.

Regarding Applicant's arguments concerning the Examiner's assertions that Foxlin's tracker 30 reads on the claimed first and second trackers, the Examiner notes that although two structural elements are claimed, both functions of the respective elements are performed by Foxlin's tracker 30.

Therefore, the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RASHAWN TILLERY whose telephone number is 571-272-6480. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dennis Chow can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/585,124
Art Unit: 2174

Page 12

/RASHAWN TILLERY/
Examiner, Art Unit 2174

/DENNIS-DOON CHOW/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2174